

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-07

IO-10 AID-05 IGA-01 EURE-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /089 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7821

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

EUCOM

UNCLAS ANKARA 1007

EO: 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, GR, US

SUBJECT: ECEVIT STATEMENT ON MILITARY AID CUTOFF

1. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT BY REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY
BULENT ECEVIT ON "CYPRUS AND TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS"
WAS ISSUED IN ANKARA FEBRUARY 4:

QUOTE

IT IS REPORTED THAT AMERICAN MILITARY AID TO TURKEY IS STOPPED
BY THE U.S. CONGRESS, IN SPITE OF THE ADVANCES MADE TOWARDS A
NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IN CYPRUS AND IN SPITE OF THE APPREHENSIONS
EXPRESSED BY THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION.

WE HAVE ALWAYS STATED THAT COLLECTIVE SECURITY ARRANGEMENT TO
WHICH BOTH TURKEY AND THE U.S.A. ARE PARTIES, SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED
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WITH THE CYPRUS ISSUE.

BUT IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE U.S. CONGRESS AND THE GREEKS TEND TO INTERPRET TURKEY'S CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH AS A SIGN OF SUBMISSION TO PRESSURE AND THREATS.

SO MUCH THAT, IN RETURN FOR SEVERAL CONCILIATORY GESTURES COMING FROM THE TURKISH SIDE, THE GREEKS IN CYPRUS HAVE STARTED OPENING FIRE ON TURKISH POSITIONS ON THE ISLAND.

UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES WE WOULD RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING MEASURES TO THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT:

1. ALL CONCILIATORY GESTURES MUST BE STOPPED UNTIL THE GREEKS ADOPT A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE AND CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE.
2. THE RESETTLEMENT QUESTION SHOULD BE SUSPENDED UNLESS THE TURKS IN THE GREEK CONTROLLED AREAS ARE TO BE GIVEN COMPLETE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT.
3. PHASED REDUCTION OF TURKISH TROOPS IN CYPRUS MUST BE STOPPED IN VIEW OF THE OBVIOUS SIGNS THAT SUCH REDUCTIONS ENCOURAGE AGGRESSIVENESS AMONG THE GREEK CYPRIOTS AND, CONSEQUENTLY, ENDANGER PEACE AND SECURITY ON THE ISLAND.
4. THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT GOVERNMENT, WHICH WILL BE FEDERATED, IN DUE TIME, TO A FEDERAL STATE OF CYPRUS, MUST BE ESTABLISHED PRIOR TO NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING THE FINAL SETTLEMENT.

WITH REGARD TO OUR RELATIONS WITH AMERICA, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS THE FOLLOWING VIEWS:

IF MILITARY AID IS STOPPED OR CONTINUES TO BE USED AS A MEANS OF THREAT AND PRESSURE BY THE CONGRESS, WE CANNOT HELP THINKING THAT AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD TURKEY IS DECIDED BY THE GREEKS RATHER THAN BY RESPONSIBLE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES. SUCH AN OBSERVATION CAN HARDLY BE ASSURING FOR TURKEY. AS SECRETARY OF STATE DR. KISSINGER HAS RIGHTLY SAID IN A PRESS STATEMENT ON 28TH JANUARY, "FOREIGN COUNTRIES CAN ONLY DEAL

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WITH A GOVERNMENT. THEY CANNOT, AND SHOULD NOT, BEGIN TO LOBBY IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS OF A SOCIETY." YET IF THE PRESENT ATTITUDE OF THE U.S. CONGRESS TOWARDS TURKEY CONTINUES, IT WILL BE OBVIOUS THAT GREEK LOBBYING IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY IS TOO INFLUENTIAL, RENDERING IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR TURKEY TO CONSIDER HER ALLIANCE WITH UNITED STATES AS A DEPENDABLE FACTOR IN HER SECURITY.

AMERICAN MILITARY AID TO TURKEY HAS NEVER BEEN
ONE-SIDED. WITH THE CUTTING OFF OF AMERICAN AID, TURKEY'S
OWN CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMON SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WILL
INEVITABLY BECOME A TOPICAL ISSUE THAT SHOULD BE TAKEN UP
NOT BY TURKEY ALONE BUT ALSO BY NATO. SUCH A DEVELOPMENT
MIGHT LEAD TO A RECONSIDERATION OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC
CONCEPT OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY AS A WHOLE, AS WELL AS
TURKEY'S OWN SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS.

END QUOTE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, POLICIES, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA01007
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750040-0849
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750276/aaaacqcc.tel
Line Count: 127
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2003 by RuthemTJ>; APPROVED <07 JAN 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECEVIT STATEMENT ON MILITARY AID CUTOFF
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, GR, US, REPUBLICAN PEOPLES PARTY, (ECEVIT, BULENT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006